

times. Her mate was *H. chrysoptera* in normal plumage. He flew to the female occasionally and was quite tame. At this time, when swinging in an apple-tree near by, the drawling note peculiar to this species was so faint as to require close attention to hear it. My first idea was to leave the eggs and have them hatch, then watch the young and so try to settle the perplexing question about these birds, but the nest was so close to a cattle-path in the swamp that it was liable to be destroyed by the animals when passing to and fro after water, they having already nearly stepped in it. I finally waited until the 23d of the month and took the nest and eggs and secured both birds. After the female was shot, and the male was unable to find her, his song changed and was as loud and sharp as in early spring. The nest was on the ground among thick alder bushes on the edge of a swampy thicket. It was composed externally of dry leaves and a few pieces of coarse grass, and lined with delicate strips of grape-vine bark. The eggs are white, finely and sparsely speckled with reddish brown, the dots being more conspicuous about the larger end, forming in one egg a noticeable ring. This female *leucobronchialis* is nearly as bright in color as the males. The chin, breast and abdomen are marked with yellow, the breast strongly so. Wing-bars yellowish white. I have now found Brewster's Warbler here for nine successive years, the specimen referred to above being the only female. The large series in my collection shows many variations. — JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

Nesting of *Mimus polyglottos* in Eastern Massachusetts.—On June 3, 1895, while walking along a narrow country road in Groton, Massachusetts, my attention was suddenly attracted by the strange sight of a Mockingbird flying across an adjoining field. It alighted on a fence post near by, and, as I turned back to make sure that I had seen aright, my surprise was increased by the appearance of a second one. The two birds flew off together with such an evident air of being mates that I immediately began to look for a nest. The road was bordered on each side by a broad stretch of grassy fields, divided by rail fences: an eighth of a mile away it crossed a much travelled highway, strung along which a dozen houses could be seen; while at about the same distance in the opposite direction was the beginning of a large tract of deciduous woods. Besides these woods, there was hardly a tree anywhere near, save a few small apple-trees by one of the houses and one or two more—stunted, chance-sown seedlings—growing by the roadside. To one of the latter, a few steps away, I directed my search. In a moment I discovered a clumsily built nest a dozen feet from the ground, amid the thick foliage of a branch that overhung the road. I climbed the tree and, though I found the nest empty, I was rewarded by a scolding visit from the birds. When I came again on June 13 they gave me a still more unfriendly greeting though they were so wary that I obtained only the male to accompany the nest and four half-incubated eggs which I secured.

This locality, which is in the northern part of Middlesex County, hardly six miles south of the New Hampshire boundary, is the most northern point in New England where the Mockingbird has yet been known to breed, and the only one in Massachusetts, east of Springfield, where its nest actually has been taken. The only other recorded evidence I can find of the breeding of the species in eastern Massachusetts is based on two families of well-grown young, found, one at Arlington (Auk, I, 192), the other at Marshfield (O. & O. XIV, 144). In each of these cases the birds were not discovered until August 15, although it seems probable that they had been bred in the neighborhood.—CHARLES F. BACHELDER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

More Wyoming Mockingbirds.—In 'The Auk' for July 1894 (XI, p. 258) will be found a short account of the capture of three Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*) along Crow Creek about two miles east of Cheyenne. The first capture was made on May 10, the second on the 11th and the third on the 23d. I did not anticipate at the time that I would ever have a similar experience here, for I had collected birds at this point during the previous twelve years and had never found a Mocker before. On May 19, 1895, I found two Mockingbirds along Crow Creek six miles west of Cheyenne. Not having a gun along I had to content myself with watching the birds and in listening to the song of the one with the larger wing patches. These two birds were comparatively tame for I approached to within thirty yards, at which distance they scarcely noticed me.

To-day, May 26, I visited the locality two miles east of town where I made the capture in 1894. I was again fortunate for I flushed a female Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) from the same cottonwood copse in which I killed No. 3 on May 23, last year. After a half hour's stern chase I bagged my bird not a hundred yards from the point where the other bird fell.

I hardly know what conclusion to draw from the presence of these birds in Wyoming. Dr. Mortimer Jesurun wrote me that he captured one specimen at Douglas, one hundred and fifty miles north of Cheyenne, last year. It is more than probable that considerable numbers of Mockingbirds, both during the present spring and in 1894, visited Wyoming and probably raised broods here.—FRANK BOND, *Cheyenne, Wyo.*

Absence of the Bluebird at Meadville, Pa.—For the first time in my recollection *Sialia sialis* is noticeable for its absence, in the vicinity of Meadville, Crawford Co., Pa., for this time of the year. In referring to my note book, I find that I have observed them in this locality, every month in the year, with the exception of the month of December, in more or less numbers, they being very common during the spring, summer, and fall months. But their soft warbling notes are not to be heard this spring among those of many other happy songsters. The first that I observed